

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 239

By Terry

A RESOLUTION to recognize culinary chef Alex Belew on his recent victory as a contestant on the reality television cooking competition *Hell's Kitchen: Battle of the Ages*.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pride in specially recognizing those individuals whose exemplary achievements bring national acclaim to themselves, their communities, and the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, one such exceptional individual is Alex Belew of Murfreesboro, who recently won the reality television cooking competition *Hell's Kitchen: Battle of the Ages*, which is hosted by celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay and broadcast on Fox; and

WHEREAS, Alex Belew's love for cooking can be seen from his early childhood days, when he spent many weekends in his grandmother's kitchen in Rover, helping her make buttermilk biscuits and boiled custard served in Mason jars; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Belew attended The Art Institute of Tennessee in Nashville and graduated with honors with a Culinary Arts degree, which afforded him many years of additional training by allowing him the opportunity to work in some of Nashville's top kitchens; and

WHEREAS, after years of commercial kitchen work, Alex Belew became an instructor at Blackman High School in Murfreesboro; having trained his students in a variety of culinary skills, he led them to victory at the National Restaurant Association's Prostart Championship in 2014, thereby distinguishing his program as the top culinary program in the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Belew soon began to win local and regional culinary competitions, including Fan Favorite at the 2017 Chef's Taste Challenge in New Orleans, the 2018 Charity Chopped in the 'Boro Fundraising contest, the 2014 KC steak cookoff, and top honors twice at

the annual Taste of Elegance contest; his restaurant, Dallas & Jane, was also voted the Best Restaurant in Rutherford County by Eater Nashville and the Local Firefly Awards; and

WHEREAS, Alex Belew founded a number of culinary businesses, including Alex Belew Catering, LLC, Made South Hospitality, and AB Hospitality, LLC, each of which he also served as head chef; and

WHEREAS, as the season 21 winner of *Hell's Kitchen: Battle of the Ages*, Mr. Belew was awarded the head chef position at the Gordon Ramsay Hell's Kitchen restaurant in Caesars Atlantic City in Atlantic City, New Jersey, with a \$250,000 cash prize; and

WHEREAS, we find it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud Alex Belew for his many achievements in culinary arts; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we recognize and congratulate Alex Belew on his accomplished culinary career and his recent victory as a contestant on *Hell's Kitchen: Battle of the Ages*, extending to him our best wishes for continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.